GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6122
ANSWERED ON:11.04.2017
Raising Crops in Desert Areas
Choudhary Col. (Retd) Sona Ram

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the soil in desert and waste land areas can be made fertile through proper technological treatment for raising appropriate crops and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken for the application of Science and Technology for raising of crops in desert and rain deficient areas particularly the desert of western Rajasthan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

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(a) & (b): Central Arid Zone Research Institute (CAZRI), Jodhpur with its four regional stations at Bikaner, Jaisalmer, Pali and Bhuj are engaged in developing technologies for controlling wind erosion, preventing desertification and improving agricultural productivity in the Arid/desert eco-systems. Techniques of sand dune stabilization and shelter-belt plantations have been developed for arresting the movement of sand dunes in the arid zone. Technologies for developing efficient rainwater harvesting structures such as farm ponds, nalla bunds, check dams, percolation tanks, khadin, tanka, nadi, dugout and embankment type ponds have also been developed. Agroforestry based interventions are also advocated.

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